Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-11 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 /110 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:CAKENNEDY:SEB
APPROVED BY NEA/EGY:DONEWBERRY
T:JNYE (DRAFT)
OES/NET:DHOYLE (DRAFT)
NEA:NAVELIOTES (DRAFT)
L/N:RBETTAUER (DRAFT)
ACDA:DRUST (INFO)

-----043318 260807Z/21

R 250059Z FEB 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECK, EG, US

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: CAIRO 5149

- 1. EGYPTIAN DCM, MOHAMED SHAKER, CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY BENSON'S DEPUTY, JOSEPH NYE, FEBRUARY 21. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VELIOTES, OES/NET ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DIXON HOYLE AND NEA/EGY OFFICER KENNEDY PARTICIPATED.
- 2. SHAKER SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED CABLE FROM MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY UNDER SECRETARY WHICH NOTED PASSAGE OF NEW U.S. NON-PROLIFERATION LEGISLATION AND ASKED WHAT NEXT CONFIDENTIAL

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STEPS MIGHT BE. NYE RESPONDED THAT BILL HAD NOT REACHED WHITE HOUSE BUT WE ANTICIPATED THAT SIGNING COULD OCCUR IN NEXT TWO WEEK PERIOD. NYE ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD ASKED L/N TO COMPARE INITIALLED AGREEMENT WITH NEW LAW TO DEFINE NECESSARY CHANGES. NYE SAID HE THOUGHT CHANGES WOULD BE ABOUT SAME AS LANGUAGE GIVEN EGYPTIANS EARLIER DURING SULTAN AND GUBEILY VISITS. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED

EGYPTIAN REACTION TO EARLIER LANGUAGE CHANGES; HOWEVER, AFTER L/N'S ANALYSIS, REPRESENTATIVES OF EGYPT AND THE U.S. COULD MEET TO DISCUSS THE CHANGES AND LANGUAGE. ALTHOUGH WE ANTICIPATED THAT THIS PROCESS COULD GO QUICKLY IF THERE

ARE NO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US ON THE CHANGES, NYE OPINED THAT IT WOULD SEEM TO BE POLITICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS IF WE DID NOT SUBMIT A NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR EGYPT TO CONGRESS UNTIL THE ARMS PACKAGE WAS SETTLED. WE SPECULATED THAT MAY OR A LITTLE LATER MIGHT BE THE TIME TO SUBMIT A NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

- 3. SHAKER AGREED WITH NYE'S RESPONSE AND SUGGESTIONS. HE ASKED ABOUT "CONDITIONS" FOR AN AGREEMENT. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT FULL SCOPE SAFEGUARDS WILL BE NEEDED TO PERMIT EXPORT OF U.S. NUCLEAR MATERIALS OR EQUIPMENT UNLESS EXEMPTED BY PRESIDENT, WHICH EXEMPTION COULD BE OVERRIDDEN BY CONGRESSIONAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION. ADHERENCE TO NPT WHILE ENCOURAGED IS NOT A CONDITION OF AN AGREEMENT.
- 4. SHAKER INDICATED THAT EGYPT WOULD SEEK A COMMITMENT FROM US NOT TO AGREE TO MORE LENIENT PROVISIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS THAN WE AGREE TO WITH THEM. HE THEN RAISED QUESTION OF A "MOST-FAVORED-NATION" CLAUSE AS EARLIER SUGGESTED BY GHORBAL DURING SULTAN VISIT. HE SPECULATED THAT SUCH A CLAUSE COULD BE ADDRESSED SPECIFICALLY TO ISRAEL OR IN CONFIDENTIAL.

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GENERAL TERMS TO "COUNTRIES IN THE REGION". SHAKER ALSO NOTED THAT DURING GUBEILY VISIT, EGYPTIANS ASKED ABOUT WHAT GUARANTEES WE COULD MAKE IN THEIR AGREEMENT WITH US TO COVER BENEFITS ISRAEL MIGHT GET FROM A NON-U.S. SUPPLIER.

- 5. ON FIRST POINT, NYE SAID HE WOULD ASK L/N TO LOOK INTO QUESTION OF A MFN TYPE CLAUSE. ON THE SECOND POINT, SHAKER WAS TOLD WE COULD DO NOTHING. NYE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT PRESIDENT NOT INCLINED TO USE EXEMPTION MEASURES IN NEW LEGISLATION. VELIOTES NOTED THAT EXEMPTION REQUIRES DETERMINATION THAT ITS USE WILL MATERIALLY ADVANCE U.S. NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES OR THAT FAILURE TO USE IT WOULD OTHERWISE JEOPARDIZE THE COMMON DEFENSE AND SECURITY, WHICH CRITERIA ARE SUBSTANTIALLY TIGHTER THAN "POLITICAL INTERESTS". VELIOTES ALSO SUGGESTED GOE LOOK VERY SERIOUSLY AT ADVANTAGES OF AN AGREEMENT ON ITS OWN MERITS BASED ON GOE-US RELATIONS WITHOUT LINKING OUR RELATIONS TO ISRAEL.
- 6. CONCLUDING MEETING, IT WAS AGREED THAT PARTIES WOULD MEET AGAIN IN A FEW WEEKS AFTER L/N HAS HAD CHANCE TO DO ANALYSIS AND LOOK INTO MFN TYPE CLAUSE. VANCE

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